



ALIEN WORLDS

TM

#4



Dave
Stevens
©1983



STRATOSPHERIC SCRIBBLINGS

c/o PACIFIC COMICS / 8423 Production Ave. / San Diego, CA 92121

Dear Editor:

I loved Aurora! Simply sensational—the art, the colors, the story. More please, more! Dave Stevens is my #1, clear-field favorite, and yes, you are very fortunate to have him. Hands down, he is your best artist, although *Alien Worlds* is, in general, quite remarkable. It is, indeed, a nice change from the “boys in technicolor fights.” You have carried off the concept quite well in this, as well as in *Twisted Tales*. (I especially like the “Infected,” geez, what an opener!)

It would be nice to see Aurora in her own book. . . . Although any Dave Stevens is just fine with me.

Good luck West Coast. I love the competition.

Jennifer Conway
18 N. Oak Ave., B-11
Clifton Heights, PA 19018

Dear Bruce,

After sending you my first letter one or two months ago, regarding the refreshingly high quality of your magazine, I really didn't think I'd be writing again so soon. But that was before I read *Alien Worlds* #3. Forgive me for gushing like a fan, but this issue seems to me a high-water mark in illustrated science-fiction, all the ECs included. “Dark Passage” was, simply, lovely. I kept picturing Ray Bradbury reading this story, which lovingly incorporates the spirit of his early work, and smiling from ear to ear. “Pi in the Sky” was one of the most graphically exciting pieces this field has seen. Stunning composition, the decision of running the narrative across two pages instead of one was absolutely right. And, of course, where another writer would have simply ended it with the revelation that what we were seeing was two men engaged in video-game warfare, you took it several steps further. As I expected you would. Finally, “The Inheritors.” This is one of the finest comic stories I've ever read. Rarely has the “surprise ending” been used with such quiet confidence by a writer to illuminate and deepen what has gone before. And, as is common with your work, I was pleased in re-reading to discover that all the clues we needed to piece together the true origins of your aliens were interwoven into the text with subtlety and intelligence: maybe that's why I've already re-read this particular story 3 times with ever-increasing pleasure. But the most outstanding feature of “The Inheritors” was this: it was imagined, not concocted or fabricated. Colorful made a distinction between works of imagination and works of fancy; the former engage the writer (and reader) at all levels—the latter do not. After decades of comic-book writing that has had as its goal the fanciful distraction of the reader's

mind (sometimes a very enjoyable distraction, to be sure), it comes as a shock to encounter a writer whose standards of achievement begin at the point where others end. . . . if they're lucky.

I haven't mentioned the artists. They're wonderful, and their gifts enhance and complement your own. I remain transfixed by the splash page of “Dark Passage” and by the first page, especially, of “The Inheritors.” Who is Scott Hampton anyway and how did he get so good? Ken Steacy's use of color on his own work, and Steve Clift's on everybody else's is all that anyone could hope for. . . . Also, I liked reading 3 longer stories as opposed to 4 of shorter lengths, please continue to let the dictates of the tale being told determine the number of pages. . . . Also, how about biographies of your artists, and how about adapting some of the work of Cordwainer Smith, and how about—

I think you get the idea.

Ralph Pape
364 W. 10 St. #4C
New York, NY 10011

Dear Gents,

I just finished reading *Alien Worlds* #2. My first reaction? HOOORAY!

Dave Stevens is the freshest breath of air to hit comics in years. “Aurora” was a masterpiece of story and art. My congrats to Mr. Jones and Mr. Stevens. Aurora is innocent, beautiful, sexy, daring, and dangerous. I'm in love.

I hope there is more to the Aurora myth as I understand that the lead feature is at least 5 years old. I pray Jones and Stevens did much more material on this gorgeous creature. I hope to see her again!

“Vicious Circle” I consider to be pure “sequential art.” Ken Steacy utilizes the form to its fullest. Nice work, Ken! I hope to see more.

Welcome back to the drawing table, Bruce. “A Mind of Her Own” was some good stuff! I'm looking forward to more art from you. I've always liked your stories. Let's hope you get to illustrate more often.

Gee whiz, fellas, between *Alien Worlds* and *Twisted Tales* I'm not quite sure which is the best comic to come along in years. All I can say is thank the heavens for Pacific Comics!

Kurt R. Hatheway
453 W. 22nd St. #5R
New York, NY 10011

ALIEN WORLDS, Vol. 1, No. 4, September, 1983. Published bimonthly by Pacific Comics. Bruce Jones and April Campbell, Editors. Steve and Bill Schanzer, Publishers. Paul Tallender, Production Coordinator. Tony Frutti, Graphic Artist. Kevin Montano, Jon Hartz, and Ken Kruger, Circulation Managers. Office of Publication: 8423 Production Ave., San Diego, CA 92121. (619) 586-3290. TWISTED TALES #2 © 1983 by Bruce Jones Associates. Nothing may be reproduced in whole or in part without the permission of the copyright holder. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine to any living or dead persons or institutions is intended and any such similarity is purely coincidental. Cover painting is © 1983 by Dave Stevens. “Princess Pam” art is © 1983 by Dave Stevens and Bruce Jones, story is © 1983 by Bruce Jones Associates. “Girl of My Schemes” art is © 1983 by Bo Hampton, story is © 1983 by Bruce Jones Associates. “One Day in Ohio” art is © 1983 by Ken Steacy, story is © 1983 by Bruce Jones Associates. “Deep Secret” art is © 1983 by Jeff Jones, story is © 1983 by Bruce Jones Associates. “Land of the Free” art is © 1983 by Al Williamson, story is © 1983 by Bruce Jones Associates. A Bruce Jones Associates Production. Printed in the United States of America.

To Cliff —

Dave Stevens

Princess Pam



Jones & Stevens

THE AIR, YES... BUT WHAT ABOUT SUSTENANCE? WHERE WOULD HE FIND FOOD FOR HER ON THIS ENDLESS ROCKPILE?... CYNX SENT HIS SCANNERS SEARCHING FAR AND WIDE FOR SOME SIGN OF DISESTIMABLE NOURISHMENT...



SCRIPT AND PENCILS: BRUCE JONES INKS: DAVE STEVENS

Lettering: Carne McCarthy Coloring: Joe Chiodo

Bruce Jones



THEY WALKED. CYNX WATCHED HER CLOSELY. THEN, GRADUALLY, THINGS BEGAN TO CHANGE...

CYNX LOOK!
DOWN THERE! A
FOREST! RIVERS.
OH, CYNX!



OH, IT'S WONDERFUL! JUST
LIKE IN SNOW WHITE! AND
LOOK AT THE FRUIT!

OH, CYNX, MAYBE WE'LL
FIND THE LITTLE DWARFS'
COTTAGE AND THE WICKED
WITCH AND THE DIAMOND
MINE! HA-HA!



A POOL!
HOW
BEAUTIFUL!



I'VE JUST GOT
TO WASH OFF
SOME OF THIS
DIESEL FUEL
FROM THAT
WRECK!



GOO, CHIEF!
BE A PET, CYNX,
AND ZIP BACK TO
THE SHIP FOR MY
SHAMPOO. HUK?



...AND THEN THE DWARFS FASHIONED
A GLASS COFFIN FOR HER BECAUSE
THEY LOVED HER SO MUCH THEY
COULDN'T BEAR TO BURY HER...
AND THEY SEALED
HER WITHIN IT...



...AND THE HANDSOME
PRINCE CAME AND
LIFTED AWAY THE
GLASS AND KISSED
HER AWAKE...
AND THEY LIVED
HAPPILY EVER
AFTER IN HIS
ENCHANTED
CASTLE!



ISN'T THAT A
(YAWN) LARGE LITTLE
STORY, CYNX? MWWW...
SLEEPY...





...CAN'T SEEM
TO FOCUS ON
ANYTHING...
DIZZY...



...CYNK...
WHA...WHAT'S
HAPPENING...
...TO ME...?



...THE MUSHROOMS...
POISONOUS...WHY
DID YOU LET ME EAT
THEM, CYNK?...

...THE SHIP...THE
RADIO...YOU DIDN'T GET
THROUGH, DID YOU, CYNK?
THEY'RE NOT COMING TO
RESCUE US. ARE THEY...



CYNK HURRIED BACK TO THE MANGLED
FUSELAGE... THERE WERE
TOOLS ON BOARD, AND THE HULL
WAS STAINLESS STEEL...

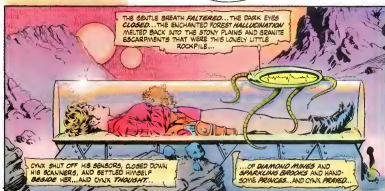


...I...I'M NOT
MADE, CYNK...I
KNOW WHY...
YOU DID IT...
I ONLY WISH...

...I ONLY WISH
I HADN'T DRAGGED
YOU ALONG...
WITH ME...



...WHAT...WILL YOU DO...
CYNK?...WHAT...WILL YOU
DO...ALL ALONE...ALL
...ALONE...



THIS GENTLE BREATH FALTERED...THE DARK EYES
CLOSED...THE ENCHANTED FOREST HALLUCINATION
MELTED BACK INTO THE STONY PLAINS AND GRANITE
ESCARPMENTS THAT WERE THIS LONELY LITTLE
ROCKPILE...

CYNK SHUT OFF HIS SENSORS, CLOSED DOWN
HIS SCANNERS, AND SETTLED HIMSELF
BESIDE HER...AND CYNK THOUGHT...

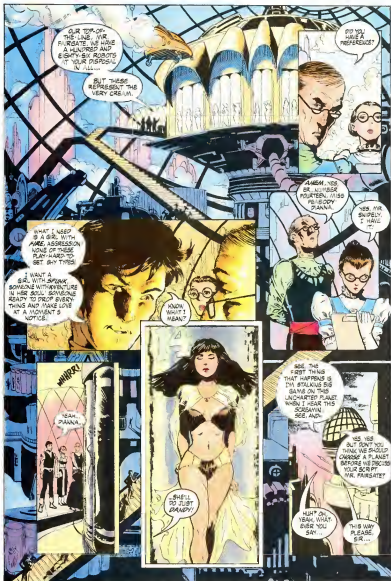
...OF DIAMOND MINES AND
SPARKLING BROOKS AND HAND-
SOME PRINCES...AND CYNK SMILED...

OF MY SCENARIOS



Bo Hampton





METALLINA...
ALTAR H...
PHOBOS...

I LIKE THAT
ONE THERE!

—ARCSO, UH...MR. FAIRGATE,
I MUST WARN YOU THAT ARCSO
IS ONE OF THE MORE DAN-
GEROUS PLANETS ON
OUR LIST...

DESPITE THE FACT
THAT THE CREATURES
WE SUPPLY ARE MECHANICAL,
WE NEARLY LOST THE PREVIOUS
CLIENT AND CANNOT ASSUME
RESPONSIBILITY FOR...

YEAH, YEAH, I
KNOW ALL THAT,
THAT'S THE ONE
I WANT!

ARCSO,
MISS
PEABODY...

I HAVE
IT, MR.
SNIDEN.

NOW AS
TO YOUR
SCRIPT, MR.
FAIRGATE...

—IT IS IMPERATIVE
THAT YOU BEGIN YOUR
FANTASY WELL-REHEARSED
WELL GIVE A COPY OF YOUR
SCENARIO TO OUR ROBOTICS

YEAH!
YOUR PRIMA
MODEL WILL HAVE
IT STORED IN HER
MEMORY UNIT
INSTANTLY...

YEAH!
SEE, I'VE CRASH
LANDED ON THIS
UNCHARTED
PREHISTORIC
PLANET AND—

SHE WILL REPRODUCE
WHATEVER YOU'VE WRITTEN,
GUIDED BY YOUR OWN VOICE, BUT
YOU MUST STICK STRICTLY TO
THE SCRIPT! OUR ROBOTS CAN
NOT INVENT CONVERSATION,
MR. FAIRGATE.

YOU'LL HAVE EXACTLY
24 HOURS WITH HER, AFTER
WHICH YOU WILL RETURN HER
IMMEDIATELY TO JAY DREAMS
INC. YOU UNDERSTAND?

YEAH, YEAH,
SURE SURE,
HERE'S THE
SCRIPT!

(WHY) WE TRY
TO PROVIDE A LITTLE
COMPANIONSHIP AGAINST
A VACATION BACKGROUND
AND THIS IS WHAT
WE GET: IS IT WORTH
IT, MISS PEABODY?

TEN MINUTES
LATER

DISGUSTING MAN!
I THOUGHT HE'D NEVER
LEAVE! DID YOU READ
THE SCRIPT, MISS
PEABODY?

YES! FILTHY
SEX ON EVERY
PAGE! THE MAN
IS AN ANIMAL,
MR SNIDEN!

WE CAN
ONLY DO
OUR BEST,
MR.
SNIDEN!



AW! SMALL
THAT AIR!
NO BIG CITY
TURNS AROUND
HERE!



LET'S SEE NOW!
ACCORDING TO
THE SCRIPT, THERE'S
SUPPOSED TO BE
THIS FREAKING
TERRIFIED

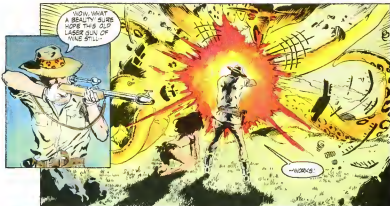
EEEE!



HOT DOG:
RIGHT ON
CUE

I'M
COVING,
DARLIN'

HOLY
MOSES!



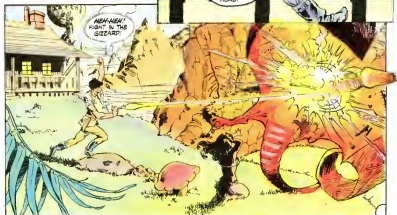




SHORTLY...

EEEEEEEEEE!

OH, BOY! MORE MONSTERS!





YOU WERE
MAGNIFICENT. YOU
WORSHIP. MAKE LOVE
TO ME NOW. HERE
ON THE WARM EARTH.
I CAN'T EVEN WAIT
FOR YOU TO CARRY
ME INSIDE.

HEART-HEART
LITTLE MAN!



AND SOON
AGAIN.

WOW. ALMOST
TWELVE O'CLOCK
TIME TO GET YOU
BACK TO THE
AGENCY MANNA
GLY GIRL...

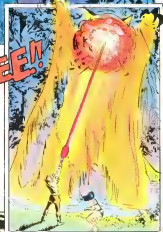


HEY! THE KEYS! THE
SPACE COUPE ARE
GONE! WHAT
THE...



EEEEEE!

HOLY MOTHER
NOT
AGAIN!



OH MY BRASS DASHING
HERO. YOU WERE MAGNIFI-
CENT. YOU WERE SUPERB.
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH
INCREDIBLE FARNIS...

GOOD
LORD
SHE'S
REPEATING
HER
TALKS



OH PLEASE MY
CHAMPION

DO NOT
RESIST MY
UNCONTROLLED
APPROX

HEY TAKE
IT EASY
YOU'RE
STRAINING
ME.



SOON.

AT LAST
I AM WHOLE
I BOB WITH
HAPPINESS
I OBY WITH
YOU

...GASP!
GASP!
GET MY
BREATH



—LET'S GO
TO YOUR PLACE

HEY WAIT
A MINUTE
WE GASP!
DO THIS
A REACH





YOU WERE
MAGNIFICENT. MY
WORSHIP! MAKE
LOVE TO ME NOW!
HERE ON THE WARM
EARTH...



NO, NO! STAY AWAY
FROM ME! BY GOD,
I'LL BLAST YOU TO
BOOTS JUST LIKE I
DID THE OTHERS!



NO, WAIT!
DON'T SHOOT!
WAIT! I'M REAL!
SEE?

MISS
PEASBODY! WHAT
IS THE WORLD...



YOU THINK IT'S EASY, DAY
AFTER DAY, YEAR AFTER
YEAR, SITTING THERE WITH
THAT PRETTY NINJA SINGING
LOOKING AT ALL THOSE EXOTIC
LOCALS. READING ALL THOSE
EXOTIC SCENARIOS? I'M A
NORMAN! BAH! I NEED
A VACATION, TOO! ONLY IT'S
AGAINST COMPANY POLICY
FOR EMPLOYEES... (GROG)



IT UNDERWENT
SOME MAJOR SURGERY
TO MAKE MYSELF LOOK
LIKE THE ROBOT (GROG)...
PLEASE MR. FAIRGATE,
DON'T REPEAT ME. I
NEED THE JOB! I'LL
DO ANYTHING YOU
SAY ABSOLUTELY
ANYTHING!

ANYTHING,
MISS PEASBODY?...

WHAT IS--
MR. SHIPLEY!!



FAIRGATE WAS SENT
ELSEWHERE. I'M AFRAID
(HEAVEN) THIS IS MY
FIFTH TIME AT IT. MISS
PEASBODY... I'M SURPRISED
IT TOOK YOU SO LONG TO
COME AROUND!



I'VE BEEN THINKING
THAT FOOL COMPANY
FOR YEARS (HEAVEN)...
NEVER WITH A LIVE
PARTNER, HOWEVER...

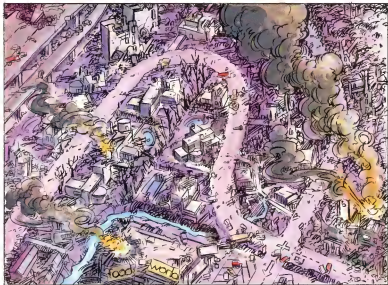
BUT
MR. SHIPLEY,
WHAT DO WE
DO NOW?



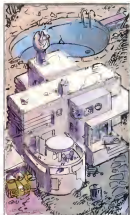
I SUGGEST YOU GIVE
ME BACK THE KEYS TO THE
SPACE COUPE AND WE GET
BACK TO THE OFFICE BEFORE
WE'RE MISSED.

..BY THE WAY,
HAVE YOU EVER
CONSIDERED THE TROPICAL
BEACHES OF AUSTIN 4,
QUITE LOVELY THIS
TIME OF YEAR..

the
end



ONE DAY IN OHIO



SCRIPT: BRUCE JONES ART AND COLORING: KEN STEACY
 Lettering: Carrie McCarthy















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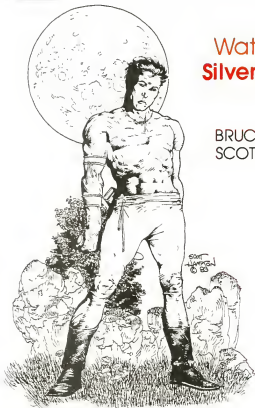
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Watch for **Silverheels #1**

BRUCE JONES
SCOTT HAMPTON

Scott Hampton is a major new art talent. He is turning heads wherever he goes, and as more of his work is published his following is sure to grow. Readers have seen his first Pacific Comics appearance in *Alien Worlds* #3, where he illustrated one of Bruce Jones' finest scripts, "The Inheritors," in pages that are actually full-color paintings—far removed from the normal line-art-with-colors that constitute normal comic fare. We were all so pleased with the results of the *Alien Worlds* job, that we immediately began developing an entire comic package to display Hampton's considerable talent. *Silverheels* is the happy result. It's a 32-page comic book printed on "Pacific Ultra-Gloss" stock, utilizing the full process color required to best reproduce Hampton's striking technique.

The story is Bruce Jones at his best. It is the saga of *Silverheels*, an Indian alive in the distant future. Earth is controlled by a highly-evolved, ruthless master race. They are on probation from an all-powerful galactic federation, which views them as a potential danger. The Earth people have concealed vast reservation-sized enclosures where other ethnic types have been enclosed for generations. It is in such a camp, among the Indians in Arizona that *Silverheels* is born.

Silverheels has a destiny to fulfill. This is a story that weaves mysticism, science fiction, and adventure in the classic style. Emotion and character develop into a visionary, strikingly-colored tapestry. Another chapter in the history of the "new era" in comics is written.

Coming this Fall from Pacific Comics!

LAND ^{OF} THE FIRE

EARTH WAS DEAD. THE VISITORS FROM THE STARS, THE FIRE, HAD SEEN TO THAT. ON THE ENTIRE SURFACE OF THE RAVAGED, BOMBED-OUT PLANET, ONLY THREE HUMANS YET SURVIVED...



WHY THE FIRE HAD PERMITTED THESE THREE TO LIVE WAS NOT YET CLEAR...PERHAPS IT WAS ONLY MALICIOUS TORTURE...PERHAPS SOMETHING ELSE.

THERE GOES LAS VEGAS... THAT'S THE END OF IT. THE VERY LAST CITY... NICE OF THEM TO LET US WATCH IT...

TAKE IT EASY, PHIL. THERE'S NOTHING ANY OF US CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW...



LATER...

I CAN'T LET MYSELF BELIEVE THAT JUNE. THERE MAY BE ONLY THREE OF US LEFT, BUT WE'VE GOT TO FIGHT THEM SOMEHOW!

WITH WHAT? THE ODDS ARE ASTRONOMICAL! WE'RE LICKED! PHIL, YOU'VE GOT TO ACCEPT IT!



I'LL NEVER ACCEPT IT! I'LL RESIST THEM AT EVERY TURN! THE HUMAN RACE WILL TRIUMPH!





THE TRIO IS BROUGHT BEFORE THE ALIEN LEADER...

SOME EXPLANATION EARTHINGS. BEFORE WE PROCEED FURTHER! YOU'VE NO DOUBT WONDERED WHY YOU'VE BEEN SPORED...



QUITE SIMPLY, WE NEED YOU! WE HAVE PLANS, YOU SEE, TO TURN THIS PART OF THE PLANET INTO A KIND OF "LIVING MUSEUM" FOR THE EDIFICATION OF OUR PEOPLE! CULTURALLY AND TECHNICALLY YOUR RACE IS WORTHLESS TO US; WE RECOGNIZE, HOWEVER, ITS PLACE IN THE ORDER OF THINGS. WE ARE OBLIGED, THEREFORE, TO RETAIN A PORTION OF IT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS OF FIRST TO STUDY. EVEN NOW CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY FOR THE PRIMAL MAN EXHIBIT DIRECTLY ABOVE US.



"THAT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY SUBSEQUENT DIORAMAS FEATURING EVERY EPOCH OF YOUR PLANET'S—SHALL WE SAY INAUSPICIOUS—HISTORY."



"THERE WILL BE DETAILED HOLOGRAMS ILLUSTRATING THE PARALLELS BETWEEN YOUR RACE AND OURS, CLEARLY SHOWING THE OBVIOUS SUPERIORITY OF THE LATTER."



"WORKMEN ARE CURRENTLY CARVING OUT NEW QUARTERS FOR THE THREE OF YOU IN THE SOUTHERN WINGS OF THE MAIN CAVERN. HERE YOU WILL LIVE OUT YOUR LIVES..."



ALTHOUGH WE HAVE CONFISCATED EVERY FORM OF HISTORICAL INFORMATION ON YOUR SPECIES THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE LIVING MIND! YOU THREE WILL BE ALLOWED TO SURVIVE THAT WE MAY CONDUCT FURTHER EXPERIMENTS...



YOU THREE STRANGERS WERE CHOSEN BOTH FOR YOUR INTELLECTUAL SUPERIORITY AND YOUR REPRODUCTIVE CAPACITY. THE FEMALE IS (NEE) ESPECIALLY FERTILE...





PHIL AND DICK ARE LED FROM THE KING'S CHAMBER ACROSS A LAVA BRIDGE TOWARD THEIR NEW QUARTERS...

STOP DREAMING, WILL YOU, PHIL? COME BACK TO REALITY, WE'RE LICKED!

NOT AS LONG AS WE'RE ALIVE! LISTEN, THERE AREN'T THAT MANY OF THEM AND THEY'RE ALL CONTAINED HERE IN THE CENTRAL CAVERN!



SNAP OUT OF IT, MAN! YOU'RE LIVING IN A DREAM WORLD!

AND IF ONE OF US CAN GET TO THEIR MAIN REACTOR, REVERSE THE CORE, WE CAN BEAT THEM!



I'LL DECIDY THEM DOWN THIS GALLERY--YOU GET TO THAT ENGINE ROOM!



TWISTS AND TURNS DOWN EVERY AVAILABLE TUNNEL, UNTIL...

KING ZOT WILL REWARD ME HANDSOMELY FOR YOUR CAPTURE, EARTH-MAN!



ANOTHER WIRE GUARD RUSHES ONTO THE SCENE IN TIME TO SEE...

THE EARTHLING IS PULLING THEM BOTH INTO THE LAVA STREAM!



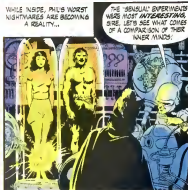
GONE!



--BUT NOT FORGOTTEN!



SEVERAL BLIND ALLEYS, A FEW CLOSE CALLS, THEN PHIL AT LAST FINDS HIS WAY BACK TO THE PALACE...



THE ENTIRE ROOM IS FILLED WITH AN EERIE, THROBBING GLOW...JUNE GASPS WEAKLY, HER BODY GOES RIGID...







MEANWHILE...HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW THE EARTH'S CONTAMINATED SURFACE...



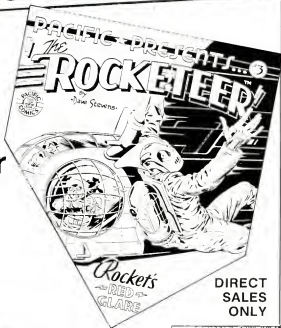
I KEEP YELLING AT HIM TO SNAP OUT OF IT, THAT HE'S LIVING IN A DREAM WORLD. BUT I GUESS HE'S BEYOND HELP NOW, PHIL. IT'S ALWAYS THOSE THAT FIGHT THE HARDEST THAT LOSE THE MOST.



ON SALE SOON!



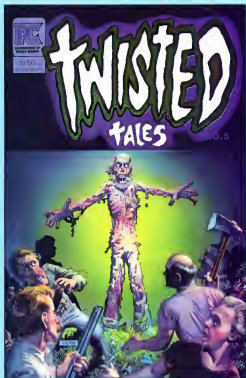
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**HORROR STORIES to
CHILL YOUR SPINE!**

Written & Edited by BRUCE JONES

JOJO WAS A GOOD
LITTLE MONKEY POSTING
THIS COMIC BOOK!

